

(a) the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4;

(b) the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-976;

(c) a nucleotide sequence encoding the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;

(d) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under at least moderately conditions to the complement of the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (c); or

(e) a nucleotide sequence complementary to the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (c).

2. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide which is at least about 70 percent identical to the polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5, wherein the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;

(b) a nucleotide sequence encoding an allelic variant of the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 4, the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-976, or the nucleotide sequence of (a);

(c) a region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-976, or the nucleotide sequence of (a) or (b) encoding a polypeptide fragment of at least about 25 amino acid residues, wherein the polypeptide fragment has an activity of the encoded polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5, or is antigenic;

(d) a region of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 4, the nucleotide sequence of the DNA insert in ATCC Deposit No. PTA-976, or the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (c) comprising a fragment of at least about 16 nucleotides;

(e) a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under at least moderately stringent conditions to the complement of the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (d); or

(f) a nucleotide sequence complementary to the nucleotide sequence of any of (a) - (d).

3. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising:

(a) a nucleotide sequence encoding a polypeptide as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 with at least one conservative amino acid substitution, wherein the encoded polypeptide has an activity of the polypeptide set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5;